

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : 6,290,144
DATED : July 19, 2005
INVENTOR(S) : Dennis Niermann

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Claim 1, remove lines 52 - 55

1. A method of routing Signaling System 7 (SS7) signaling traffic over an Internet Protocol (IP) network comprising the steps of:

a first signaling gateway (SG) receiving SS7 signaling traffic from a first signaling point;
converting said SS7 signaling traffic to an IP message stream utilizing protocol conversion layers, wherein said conversion layers include transaction capabilities application part (TCAP), message transfer part 1 (MTP1), MTP2, and MTP3 Message Transfer Part 3-User Adaptation Layer (M3UA) to a second signaling gateway, wherein

"the second SG receiving the IP message stream and recovering the SS7 signaling traffic from the IP message stream and sending the recovered SS7 signaling traffic to a second SS7 signaling link;"

transferring the signaling traffic over the IP network by routing the signaling traffic in said IP message stream to a second SG capable of supporting peer-to-peer communications with the first SG; and

the second SG receiving the IP message stream, recovering the SS7 signaling traffic from the IP message stream and sending the recovered SS7 signaling traffic to a second signaling point.

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